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CAIRO PAPER AL-AHRAM REACTS TO NIXON 'THREAT'

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(TEXT) CAIRO--COMMENTING ON U.S. PRESIDENT NIXON'S STATEMENT THREATENING DIRECT MILITARY INTERVENTION IN THE MIDDLE EAST, AL-AHRAM SAYS IN TODAY'S ISSUE THAT THE PRIMARY INDICATION IN THIS THREAT IS THAT OF THE WEAKNESS OF THE ISRAELI POSITION, BECAUSE IT IS INCONCEIVABLE THAT THE UNITED STATES WOULD RESORT TO SUCH ACTION UNLESS THERE EXISTED A STATE OF TOTAL ISRAELI COLLAPSE.

AL-AHRAM BELIEVES THE AIM BEHIND THIS THREAT IS TO BOOST ISRAELI MORALE AND TO BOW TO THE ZIONIST PRESSURE ON NIXON IN THE UNITED STATES.

AL-AHRAM RECALLS DAYAN'S STATEMENT IN 1967: "WE ARE NOT VIETNAM AND WE DO NOT WANT AMERICANS TO DIE TO DEFEND US."

AL-AHRAM DESCRIBES THE U.S. THREAT AS A HOLLOW ONE, AND SAYS IT PUTS THE UNITED STATES IN AN ABNORMAL POSITION BECAUSE THE UNITED STATES WOULD NOT PLACE ITS FORCES ON A COMBAT LINE WITH ISRAEL ON ARAB LANDS AND, IN CONSEQUENCES, FIGHT THE ENTIRE ARAB NATION. IT ALSO CANNOT INTERFERE ON THE BASIS OF SEPARATING THE TWO COMBATANTS BY REPEATING THE EXCUSE MADE BY BRITAIN AND FRANCE IN 1956, OR THROUGH THE SECURITY COUNCIL BECAUSE OF THE CERTAIN OPPOSITION IT WOULD FACE.

AL-AHRAM CONCLUDES THAT THE UNITED STATES WOULD NOT INTERFERE MILITARILY UNLESS TO PROTECT ISRAEL'S OFFICIAL BORDERS, WHICH THE UNITED STATES RECOGNIZES. THIS MEANS A U.S. RECOGNITION OF ISRAEL'S WITHDRAWAL FROM ALL THE AREAS OCCUPIED IN

1967, AND THIS IS WHAT ISRAEL IS FIGHTING TO PREVENT. THE PAPER SAYS THAT BY THIS THREAT, NIXON HAS PLACED HIMSELF IN AN EMBARRASSING POSITION.

16 OCT 0232Z PK/BG